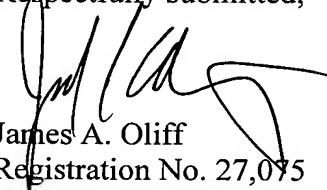


REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are pending. By this Preliminary Amendment, claim 3 is amended and claim 17 is added to eliminate multiple dependencies. Prompt and favorable examination on the merits is respectfully requested.

The attached Appendix includes marked-up copies of each rewritten claim (37 C.F.R. §1.121(c)(1)(ii)).

Respectfully submitted,

  
James A. Oliff  
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JAO:JSA/cmm

Attachment: Appendix

Date: February 19, 2002

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## APPENDIX

## Changes to Claims:

Claim 17 is added.

The following is a marked-up version of the amended claim:

3. (Amended) A multiple optical path array type probe manufactured by using the method for manufacturing a multiple optical path array type probe as claimed in Claim 1 or 2.

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